SATURDAY, APRIL 22, 1911.

Entered at the Post Office at New York as Secon Class Mail Matter.

Subscriptions by Mail, Postpaid. DAILY, Per Month. DAILY, Per Year .. SUNDAY, Per Year DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Year DAILY AND SUNDAY, Per Month.

rostage to foreign countries added. All checks, money orders, &c., to be made pay the to THE SUN.

Published daily, including Sunday, by the Su strect, in the Borough of Manhattan, New York President of the Association, Edward P. Mitchell 170 Nassau street; Treasurer of the Association M. F. Laffen, 170 Nassau street; Secretary of the Association, D. W. Quinn, 170 Nassau street.

London office.Effingham House, 1 Arundel street Strand. The daily and Sunday Sun are on sale in Lendon at the American and Colonial Exchange reet, Regent street, and Daw's Steamshi

Paris office, 6 Rue de la Michodière, off Rue de Quatre Septembre (near Place de l'Opéra). The daily and Sunday editions are on sale at Kiosque 12, near the Grand Hotel: Kiosque 77, Boulevard des Capucines, corner Place de l'Opéra, and Boulevard des Italiens, corner

If our friends who favor us with manuscripis for publication wish to have rejected articles returned the must in all cases send stamps for that purpose.

Senator Root's Moderation.

With what admirable self-restraint Senator Roor replied to the proposal of Thursday that Congress authorize the President to use the army in Mexico if the Agua Prieta incident were repeated! The mind goes back to the inestimable service Mr. Root rendered the country on his tour of South America in 1906 in connection with his attendance at the third international conference of the American republics at Rio de Janeiro.

The United States desired, he said at the conference, "no victories except those of peace, no territory except our own, no sovereignty except over ourselves." Thereafter Mr. Root's round of the countries of South America was a triumphal progress. The distrust occasioned by the war with Spain and the acquisition of Porto Rico and the Philippines vanished. Faith in the pacific and benevolent policy of the United States toward the weaker republics of America was renewed. No statesman had done fact, it would be difficult to find a parallel for Mr. Root's success in the history of the country. There followed his visit to Mexico in the fall of 1907. No greater honors. When he received a diploma from the Academy of Jurisprudence at the capital Mr. Root said:

We are passing undoubtedly into a new era of international communication. We have turned our backs upon the old days of armed invasion and the people of every civilized country are constantly engaged in the peaceable invasion of every

Formally welcomed by the Chamber of Deputies as the guest of the nation, Secretary Root repeated the sentiment in an intimate form:

"I sincerely hope that my country may for ple of Mexico, justify your kindness. I am one of those who believe that the old days when naions sought to enrich themselves by taking away are passing.

In view, therefore, of all that the Hon. ELIHU ROOT had done for peace and good will with Mexico and her sister republics we say that his self-restraint in replying to the speech of a brother Senator, who with the pretext of extinguishing a spark of discord used language of a kind calculated to start a conflagration, was admirable. We wonder at the moderation of Senator

The \$10,000,000 Bond Issue.

The decision of Governor Dix that the expense of a new construction and necessary restoration of State buildings should be met by a bond issue is sound enough. With an empty State treasury costyely. and a revenue inadequate to meet ordinary expenditure it is difficult to see in what other way the \$10,000,000 which the Governor now estimates to be needed for various projects, most of them essential, can be raised.

The decision in favor of a further bond issue, which must be submitted to the people by referendum at the next election, again calls attention to the size of the State debt. The bond issues aldates of the approval are as follows:

[\$101,000,000

50,000,000

1903 Barge Canal Improvement. 1905 Highway improvement. 1909 Cayuga Seneca Canal

1910 Hudson Forest Reservation 2,500,000 \$160,500,000

upon this debt in the next four years, as estimated by former Comptroller CLARK WILLIAMS, are as follows: Fiscal year beginning October 1, 1911. \$4,460,000

l'iscal year beginning October 1, 1912 ... 6,210,000 Fiscal year beginning October 1, 1913. Fiscal year beginning October 1, 1914... 8,450,000

In addition there are two bond issues

now proposed, the \$10,000,000 suggested by the Governor and a further issue of \$18,000,000 to meet the cost of barge canal terminals. In five years, therefore, the bonded debt of the State will probably amount to at least \$190,000,000. and the interest and sinking fund charge in 1914 will not be less than \$10,000,000. With a State revenue of less than \$38.000 -000 and a State appropriation last year of \$40,000,000 for the ordinary expenses of Government, without regard to debt charges, it is clear that there is not the from indirect taxation.

The opportunity which Governor

ury practically for a return to direct torial columns yesterday:

" A Democratic administration cannot affe o continue the Republican policy of waste and means of indirect taxation to pay the charges on the State's debt. Governor DIE was elected upon a platform promising retrenchment. Bond issues. based upon indirect taxes, do not constitute a fulfilment of that promise. The interest upo 2 00 the State debt will, within two years, cost \$10. 8 00 000,000 annually, outside the regular expenses of 79 the Government. It may be found necessary to expenses due to the Capitol fire.

A better opportunity to display sound business judgment no "business" Gov-I tinting and Publishing Association at 170 Nassau ernor ever had. The success or failure of the Dix administration will depend largely upon the manner in which this financial situation, the most serious in State affairs, is met and mastered.

> He Persists in Misrepresentation. A writer in the Saturday Evening Post

represents Colonel THEODORE ROOSE-VELT as repeating with emphasis his original misstatement concerning the Massachusetts Constitution of 1780. have already pointed out more than once the character of his departure from fact and truth in this particular. Even the reiterated exhibition of the exact text of the Massachusetts provision he pretends to cite seems to have no effect upon his sensibilities. Referring to the recall, he is reported by his adulator in the Saturday Evening Post as saying:

" I learned the other day in this connection a very interesting thing. In 1780 the State of Mas-Mr. STONE of Missouri in the Senate on sachusetts put into its Constitution precisely that provision for the recall. The article of the Conatitution states that 'in order that public ser vants may not become oppressors of the people legislative provision may be made for the retiring of public officials to private life. Observe, this is Massachusetts, which is not usually regarded as actual election board work, is limited.

The italics are those of the report They form part of the misrepresentation. A few of the words of the alleged provision for the "recall" of public officials are quoted by Colonel ROOSEVELT up to the point where they cease to serve his purpose; then he resorts to very vague paraphrase.

Once more we quote in full the article The Great Elixir and the Jaw of which he garbles and misrepresents. This time the italics are ours:

"ARTICLE VIII.- in order to prevent those who are vested with authority from becoming oppressors, the people have a right at such periods and in such manner as they shall establish by their frame of government, to cause their public officers more for peace and friendly relations to return to private life; and to fill up vacant with South America in generations. In places by certain and regular elections and ap

This "interesting thing" which Colonel ROOSEVELT has discovered in the Massachusetts Constitution he persists foreign visitor was ever received with in the face of the facts and the truth in describing as "precisely that provision for the recall" which supersedes public officials by popular vote within the stated term for which they were elected. It is nothing of the sort. There is no element in it of the "recall" as he understands the recall" and as everybody understands the "recall." What the article provides as a check upon possible oppression through permanent or long continued tenure of office is a system of periodic and certain and regular elections and appointments at intervals as frequent as may be established by law. That was

public officers to private life. This general intention of Article VIII. of Part the First of the Massachusetts Constitution of 1780, the "Declaration of the rights of the Inhabitants of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts," is interpreted and carried out in the specific provisions of Part the Second, the "Frame of Government" actually established. Thus, for example:

"There shall be annually elected, by the free holders and other inhabitants of this Common wealth, qualified as in this Constitution is provided, forty persons to be Councillors and Sen tors for the year ensuing their election." &c. " The Members of the House of Representatives

shall be chosen annually." The Governor shall be chosen annually

"The Secretary, Treasurer and Received General, and the Commissary General, notaries . . No man shall be eligible as Treasurer and Receiver General more than five years suc-

by law have in their offices shall be expressed in their respective commissions." " All judicial officers, duly appointed, commis

"The tenure that all commission officers shall

sioned and sworn, shall hold their offices during good beharior, excepting such concerning whom there is a different provision made in this Constitution. The Governor, with consent of the Council, may remove them upon the address of both houses of the Legislature."

" In order that the people may not suffer from the long continuance in place of any justice of the ready approved by the people and the peace who shall fall to discharge the important duties of his office with ability or fidelity. a commissions of justices of the peace shall expire and become void in the term of seven years from their respective dates."

" No officer, duly commissioned to command is by the address of both houses to the Governor, or by fair trial in court-martial, pursuant to the laws The interest and sinking fund charges of the Commonwealth for the time being."

In the various constitutional amendments subsequently adopted as to the 'frame of government," there were some changes of detail; absolutely no change of principle and no provision in form or purpose resembling in any respect a provision for the recall of a public officer by a popular vote for his retirement within the stated term for

which he was regularly elected. There is only one satisfactory explanation of Colonel ROOSEVELT'S persistence in this flagrant misrepresentation, if we assume ordinary intelligence on his part. It is an explanation not pleasing in the case of one who has been President of the United States.

A Week of Registration.

One simple and serious objection there slightest prospect of any further aid seems to be to the proposition contained in the recent report of the Commissioner of Accounts to the Mayor that for the ODELL mistook and Governor HUGHES present four days of registration there turned his back upon is now open to be substituted a registration week

politically as does the state of the treas- five days would be between 6 and 10 o'clock in the evening and on the last taxation. As the Times said in its edi- day between 7:30 in the morning and

10:30 in the evening. The purpose of the change is to enlist a more efficient corps of election clerks. extravagance in authorizing huge bond issues since the investigator reports that the for long terms of years or of multiplying the chief difficulty with the existing situation arises from the inefficiency of these officers. By changing the hours of registration in such fashion as to require but one day's absence from business on the part of the clerks it is argued that a better class of men would be obtained.

The difficulty seems to be that the new plan would provide for the employment on five nights of men who had already performed a day's work at their own business. Under the existing situation the men who serve as clerks give four full days of work to the registration. The question seems to be between the partial service of men who are supposedly more efficient and the full service of those who are presumably less efficient. On such a statement of the case it is easy to believe that there would be little real improvement.

As for the supposed service to the voters of such a change, it is equally possible to have doubts. Multiplying the days of registration might quite as easily encourage procrastination and carelessness as increase the actual number of registered voters. The temptation to postpone, general enough now, would unquestionably be strengthened if the opportunity to register were extended over two more days.

The real error in the theory now advanced seems to lie in the assumption that any change in hours or days will result in bringing better men into the work. The truth seems to be that the class from which the poll clerks must be drawn is restricted. The number of men who will perform this work, bear the discomfort and hardship of the To change the plan might easily diminish the efficiency of these men by permitting them to divide their time, while the chance that clerks of greater ability would be obtained is fairly slight in the face of the actual experience of those who are familiar with the operation of registration machinery.

Jones.

Even blessings may be turned into curses. Even the initiative and referendum, heaven's last best gift, except the recall, to man, can be the vehicle of hell born hate. Shudder as you look at FUNK of Bloomington and JONES of Chicago, Republican Illinois State Senators both, discussing at a conference of Republican State Senators the proposed initiative and referendum amendment to the Illinois Constitution:

" Senator Jones, during a heated argument charged Senator FUNE with attempting to smother the initiative and referendum.

' You're a Har! ' shouted FUNE, as he jumped over a table and struck Senator Jones on the jaw. " Senator Jones whipped off his glasses and made frantic efforts to strike FUNE. Imme-

a Jones? Forbid it, heaven: At the mere soothing mystic, magical sounds, ever, in its attitude and conduct toward the peo- the Massachusetts method of retiring the abracadabra of the reformer, "initiative and referendum," every good man's eye should grow moist, every good man's heart leap for joy; bosses and gods of the machine should totter on trembling knees to confess their sins at the threshold of the City Club or into the ears of SETH Low, and cry for mercy and direct primaries; the briber and the bribed should lift up their voices and weep, and the bribed should make restitution, giving their ill gotten gains to the giving their ill gotten gains to the Bucolics. The clenched word and the Bucolics. The clenched word and first should relax and drop harmless; and the Bucolics. The clenched word and first should relax and drop harmless; and the should are ax and drop harmless; and the lamb stick its nose into the mouth. eve should grow moist, every the lamb stick its nose into the mouth public and naval officers shall be chosen annually. of the lion, giving not a hang for Schedule K, revised or unrevised. A little sadly, remembering FUNK and JONES. yet with an undiminished joyful hope as men who know the quintessence and pemmican of political salvation when they see it, let us repeat those strangely beautiful lines, written in an album in Old Sparta, N. C., by the Hon. JOSEPHUS

DANIELS; the date is August 17, 1904: " The people's wrongs. "Twill end 'um: The people's rights. Each patriot's wish is for the ini tlative and referendum."

Be it said in partial justification of JONES that if he tried to fell FUNK it was because he believed FUNK untrue to the pillar of the people's hope; and the militia, shall be removed from his office but JONES promises to stump Illinois for it. FUNK is beyond pardon.

> It would be unjust to the Hon. WILL IAM JOEL STONE, LL. D., a Senator in Con gress from Missouri and technically called Gum Shoe BILL," not to say that he shows a delicate tact, an appreciation of the situation and of his responsibilities and those of the United States that would not discredit an old fashioned dime novel halfbreed laden with the most warlike of ophidian nectar. If Mr. STONE has any friends they should make him change his moccasins for the familiar "gum shoes" at once, and they should sit ponderously on his war bonnet and its impassioned wearer.

The figures for the recent French cen sus in Marseilles demonstrate that this Mediterranean town has retained secand place among French cities. Between 1906 and 1911 the population has increased from 517,000 to 549,000, a gain of \$2,000, as compared with 26,000 in the previous five years. Relatively Lyons has gained upon Marseilles, since the increase in the former city for the present census is 48,000.

The immitigable modesty of the Thane

paradise, could have no happier fortune than so loved an eponym; but vex not the violet! Some smaller, less conspicuous yet none the less significant token of publie gratitude should be sought. Would not one eponymous town in every State be an acceptable offering to the Thane? Opening the United States Official Post Office Guide at random, we hit the B's among which these, for example, might for a consideration if not from gratitude be induced to adopt the congenial name: Big Chimney, Bigfat, Big Indian, Bless ing, Blowhorn, Bluff, Bookman, Boom Bonanza, Bond, Bonus, Boreas River Brasstown, Brave, Bullion. Thousands o others as felicitous memorials are to be

of reform and her grand good work of travelling northward on special trains and hunt it up in the dictionary, and when he gilded motor cars to hear Lindsborg sing had discovered that it is derived from two

found in that excellent work.

grimage, and in the little town of the northern prairies Handel's great chorus properly preserved elsewhere.

has been sung for eighty times. More It is perfectly evident, moreover, that than a quarter of the population takes change has got to come some time, e part in the production, there is a great changes have already been made. "To sing in the chorus," it is tues.' be had in no other town or city of the ferently as if they were Sanscrit? West." To some of the correspondents Lindsborg is the "Bayrouth of the West": to others the "Oberammergau of the Prairies"; but from this it might seem to be genuinely Kansan:

"And as everywhere else where intellectualism is real, materialism is benefited—not only in the general prosperity of the community but in the appetites of the individuals. 'JoBn, what have 'Four hamburgers and four cups of

Kansas may well rejoice and be proud of such an institution. In its joys she may forget for a day, for a week. But no longer, for the call back to duty is already ounding from Topeka and Emporia.

REFORMING THE CALENDAR. A Brand New System of Arranging the Years.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: During the last ten years there has been much discussion about the reformation of our should begin on the same day. There is even talk of an international congress on the subject. Some of the schemes proposed seem to me little short of foolish. For example, it has been seriously proposed make the year of 364 days, and then have one day in common years and two days in leap years without a week day. These would be reformers do not seem to realize that such a proposal would throw the reckoning by weeks entirely out of gear. The more nor less, has come down to us from the time of Moses, and probably from a much earlier period.

It is absolutely certain that neither the would accept a scheme that interfered with this time honored arrangement. The pro-pounders of the proposed reform seem to

My object in writing is to call attention to the fact that many years ago, while I was librarian of the Society of Mechanics and Tradesmen of New York city, I wrote, anonymously, an article for the Sunday edidiately other Senators were mixed in the fray in efforts to separate the combatants, who were finally dragged apart trembling with rage."

Can there be such wraths in celestial minds? Can this political Great Elixir and Philosopher's Stone be the guilt-less cause of war 'twixt a Funk and attempt at a solution of this important problem.

problem.

I base my scheme on the fact that in 400 Gregorian years, which are a correction of the Julian year, there are 146,097 days, or exactly 20,871 weeks; hence if we make the normal length of the year 384 days it will be possible to interpolate, whenever the accumulation of shortage warrants it, a week of mulation of shortage warrants it, a week of

Hence:

Prospect Park's Last American Chestnut

From the annual report of the Park Commissione

for Brooklyn and Queens.

The year just closed witnessed the elimination of the last American chestnut tree from the plantations of Prospect Park. This species of native trees at one time was the most numerous of all the trees in our woodlands. To day it is practi-cally extinct. The reasons for its disappearance have too often been described in park reports to eed reiteration. Hickories and black birches are also rapidly

avages of insects, and in many cases old age. It is to be regretted that this inevitable loss of the old forest trees could not have been discoursears ago by the planting of young trees t place in time those that were to or have falle inder the axe. The replanting of the woodland areas begun some three or four years ago has been actively continued during the year just closed. Replanting of the American chestnut has proved Most of the young trees that were set out experimentally two years ago died the same season. The species selected for such re-planting, therefore, are the various varieties of he oaks, hickory, American and European linder maples, birches, ginko, dogwood, American and English eims, mountain ash and the hardler varie-

turned his back upon is now open to Governor Dix. The destruction of the Capitol and the very general public recognition of the extravagance and recognition of the extravagance and recklessness of recent Republican administrations supply adequate warrant the morning and 10 at night. Under the substituted a registration week.

The immitigable modesty of the Thane of Skibo will blush and hang its head at the proposal of an exuberant California Representative in Congress to give a region in Arizona famous like the Thane for its seductive and rugged beauty his revered name. It is true that a park, a and another detective case, make up the stories.

"SACRIFICE OF PHILOLOGY." An Undaunted Devotee of Skibo Spelling Hange Out His Banner.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Of all he arguments against modifying the spell ing of English the most futile is that of the "sacrifice of philology" adduced by polished gentleman from a certain baristently spelled Pittsburg in to-day's Su: I do not know whether it was THE SUN which dropped the sacred terminal "h" or the cor mission seems to me not without signifiance. I for one cannot see that philology would run any peril if we should decide to spell words as they are pronounced. The Spanish, for example, pronounce and spell the word that we pronounce "filosofy" spell "philosophy," "filosofia." Does it Does it folow that the Spaniards have thereby Kansas sometimes turns from her idols all knowledge of the Greek origin of the word? Not at all. Any Spaniard who did world regeneration to be frivolous. She not happen to know the derivation of the has just left her STUBBS to fight evil alone word would do just what an Englishman and her White to chant in solitude, and is would do under the same circumstances. Greek words that he cannot read, what bet-Since 1882 Kansas has made this pil-ter off would be be? There is no good reason that I can see for making gravestones out of our words when their genealogies can be

change has got to come some time, even as orchestra and a chorus of 550 men and years it is likely that English will be as different from the English of to-day as is the language we speak from that of Chaucer said, "is not only a mark of distinction I wonder if our philological friends think artistically; it is a badge of all civic vir- that our descendants will spell their words The feast of music is such as "can as we do now and pronounce them as dif-

It is true that enunciation and intonation differ with individuals, but is it not reason able to suppose that in these days of ready communication, and with a machine that can record spoken sounds, it would be possile to adopt a standard pronunciation, indito more consequence than personal peculiarities in handwriting? It seems to me that were such a standard fixed, as it might be by a conference called, let us say, by resident Taft and King George, it would have a powerful tendency to fix the language. It is rather sad to think that a day may come when Shakespeare and Milton will be as unintelligible to our descendants as Cædmon is to us. To my mind a "standardizing" of the language, so to speak would be a strongly conservative force in the inevitable evolutionary process

Referring again to Spanish, it is quite true that a strictly phonetic orthography such as that admirable language enjoys has apparently not prevented considerable modifications of pronunciation in the New World, notably in the "c" and "ll." This is due, however, to the fact that the original settlers of Spanish America for the most part did not speak Castillan, and that their local peculiarities of speech have persisted tradition as any people, and they have no small veneration for their Latin origin. They did not, however, allow classic tradiions, not even the mighty influence of their orthography into accord with their speech, though I have no doubt that a great howl went up from the tribe of pedants when the question of a change was first mooted. I am not familiar with Italian or German, but I believe that those language have also rid themselves of orthograph absurdities, and they must have given phi lologers short shrift in the process

Though I cannot see why we should defer pounders of the proposed reform seem to at all to the origin of a word in spelling it think they could eat their cake and have if we have ceased to respect its original pronunciation in speech. I am fully aware a perfectly phonetic rendering of English because of the physical impossibility of representing the forty odd sounds of English by the twenty-six letters of the alpha nevertheless, is really not such a titanic undertaking, and we might very well avai ourselves of the accents that are used in other languages to represent modified all the inflectional rubbish that encumber other great European languages, and if it should also cast off the ancient, ill fitting and patched up garb of its spelling it would indeed be in every way worthy to assume the preeminent position that the political genius and material power of the peoples who speak it seem to be preparing for it.

13 periods of 28 years = 143.178 days = 20.454 weeks the others. Those going to Boston might be 8 years = 2.919 days = 417 weeks a close second, but hardly those using Mon-Total in 100 years 146,007 days 20,871 weeks tauk. While this ceamer was docki

Total in 100 years 116,007 days 20,871 weeks
The year should begin at the vernal equinox or the winter solstice, and the first day of the first month should begin on a Sunday, as that is the first day of the week. If each quarter gave thirty days each to the first and third month and thirty-one days to the second month there would be ninety-one days in each quarter, or just thirteen weeks. Every first month of a quarter would always begin on a Sunday, every would hegin again as at first every 400 years, and it would be every bit as exact as the Gregorian year, for it would have the same number of days in 400 years.

One or two objections may be noticed. It has been objected that a year of \$71 days would be "dreadfully long." But when we consider that this is only six days longer than a leap year there does not seem to be much force in the objection. It is also asserted that it would be detrimental to persons working by the month. This objection seems to me to be trivial. As the year, both common as well as interpolated, would obe a simple matter to pay by the week instead of by the month. The objection seems to me to be trivial. As the year, both common as well as interpolated, would be a simple matter to pay by the week instead of by the month. The strivial has the part of the weeks it would be a simple matter to pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the week instead of by the month the pay by the week instead of by the month. The pay by the w

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—Sir: Speaking of spring, here's another from Jersey, and from this nucleus of all things shocking, according to them as doesn't know:

Gentle, fragrant, tepid spring has came. And really it is very much the same As many other springs that's came and went, Although we're later getting out of Lent.

Now April with her sudden showers warm

Has smote the earth; and from the asphalt swarn Them latent odors, freed from winter's chill; There's flowers in pots on every window sill. Spring's came all right—and through the fillgree Of quivering, budding branches we may see The brilliant rain washed sky—

And up the street we hear the buckster's cry. It's strange, ain't it, upon the soft green ground l'o see so many of last year's leaves aro All gray and dry, and being pushed aside By the young blades of grass they try to hide? PATERSON, N. J., April 21. S. H. DOUGLAS.

Fourteenth Street. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SEN-Sir: The orig-

hal Macy store was not on the southeast corne of Fourteenth street and Sixth avenue. That was occupied by a druggist by name De la Vergne, Macy being next door. Mr. Macy succeeded the firm of O'Brien & Dingee some time in the year 1858. Mr. O'Bri later made a fortune in Wall Street, and Sol Din-gee, as he was commonly called, became a suc-LXXIII.

The "Touch" in Parygia. Midas observed all he touched turn to gold.
"It's perfectly awful when you only want and a fellow a quarter." he cried.

NEW YORK, April 21.

FREDERICKSBURG'S DEAD LINE. Dying Soldier of the Sixty-ninth Found

Nearest to It by a Confederate Squad. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: About famous "wall" at Fredericksburg there ran a fence of upright plank, spaced along timber bars and supported by equidistant posts. This fence, about three hundred feet long, protected a private lot and marked also a sudden depression of the land where order to level it had rerespondent himself, but in either case its moved masses of earth from the upper to the opposite half. This prevented the Federal advance, the similitude of a breast-

work about two feet high. precise line of elevation that every assault of that day on the Confederate left inconti-nently halted. No body of troops could be forced to ascend this sudden rise of two feet, for it meant annihilation. And yet there were a few dauntless souls that dared made by the next as to whether there it, and I remember that one of these went down instanter, hit by eight bullets, as this writer, serving on the squad that went out from the Confederate line to succor the the Masses stream like beasts upon whose enemy's wounded, most distinctly noted, vision phantoms swarm. He offers some Another poor fellow, also in advance of the dense line of dead, who had been many times | last sonnet. It may be that time will shot yet was still alive and conscious, was asked as we bore him toward our lines: "What regiment?" He gasped: "Sixty-ninth New York, Meagher's Brigade."

erate works, possibly by ten feet, and was so we should think that men were bour one of a group of six or seven who of all the counderstand his wishes in the matter.

The characters in the play may be characters in the play may be characters. the fatal line marked along our front by the skeleton remnant of that farm fence, which had to be dismantled by the earliest line of assault in order to command effective firing the tremendous Confederate volleys that plerced the planks as literally as though they had been tissue.

These events occurred on the right of the 'onfederate' front, that is at the base of Marve's Heights. It was here that the main Federal loss was inflicted. The Confederates had four lines of battle massed behind the stone fence that skirted the sunken road running off at right angles from Telegraph road for about 500 feet. These four lines of battle meant eight lines of musketry fire, and nothing living could have lived before it. As soon as the firing of the last assault had ceased, it was then dark, the Confederates sprang over the wall and brought in the wounded nearest the works.

I was detailed for picket duty a little to the right of this same spot for that eventful night, having the dense mass of dead easily within sight, even through the drear midnight. At earliest dawn General Kershaw whose brigade principally had inflicted he fearful carnage, approached my post Glancing down the line that silently lay along

My God, Miller! Are those men dead?"

They are dead, sir!"
"How is that possible?"
I answered: "No man alive among them

would have failed to get away while it was dark There were 7,000 Federal killed and wounded covering the whole ground in front of that wall at Fredericksburg BISMUTH MILLER.

NEWARE, N. J., April 21. THE DUTIES ON SHOES.

Many of the Other Necessary Articles of Clothing Pay More.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir ent article in TRE SUN referred to House tesolution No. 4,413, providing that "only owhide boots and shoes will be admitted follows that of the present tariff law and noludes "shoes made of cattle hides and cattle skins of whatever weight, including calf skins.

therefore would admit duty free all shoes, men's, women's or children's, made of calf-skin, Russia, patent leather or suède. These form a very large percentage of all shoes worn, not only by farmers but by city dwellers as well.

It seems to me that in justice to the shoe manufacturing trade some consideration should be had of its comparative status ties; the present tariff levies higher duties upon every other item of clothing which the average citizen wears, man or woman.

The list runs as follows: Hats. Underwear 55 per cent. Clothing, including all kinds of garments.....

55-85 per cent

10-15 per cent. It seems to me that if the tariff is to be reis not the proper beginning point; and most certainly to single out shoes with a proposition totally to annul the duty on the most important division thereof would be to practise discrimination that is not warranted by any equitable or sound commercial principle. BOSTON, April 21. W. C. TAYLOR.

Hosiery

The Code Cracker.

Exactly reproduced from the Journal of the Florida Senate, April 14. Mr. Flournoy introduced—

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 14 Whereas. The present system of managing and conducting Primary Elections is not what it ought to be and far from what the people have a right to expect it to be, satisfactory if at all on to the successful politician, fanatic or patriot

Whereas, It is the purpose and duty of th Legislature to create and establish such laws as will terminate gross abuses of machine politics: that will promote purity in government: that will stablish the hest form of government . that will be a monument of honor rather than disgrace to the American institutions, intelli gence and conscience; that will 'preclude the regis tration of dead men and fictitious persons; the repeating at the polls may be avoided: that the elector may express his will free from intimida-tion, coercion and bribery, by which the corrupt practice of indecency using money and fradu-lently influencing elections may be diminished and the activities of the special interest in unduly controlling elections by purchase or otherwise may be prevented; that sordid and selfish ambitions, means and ends may not pervent the nobiest ideals of the Republic of our fathers, and that the indispensible principle of people rule may not be or become a partisan question, but he free from

Whereas, The sure precursor of civil improvesafeguard and perpetuity of our American institu-tions, depend on the purity of the ballot; now therefore. ment and righteousness, the satisfaction with

Be it resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring. That a committee of five be appointed, two by the President of the Senate and three by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, as a Commission to Examine the Primary Laws of this and other States. make full investigation thereof and to prepare such suggestions and forms or law or laws to carry out the purposes of this resolution as in recommendation and report thereof to this Legis-lature as expeditiously as possible.

Preparation of Teachers.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: In the new iv issued annual report of Normal College. President Davis and Professor Kieran concur in declaring that the "most serious defect in the preparation of teachers to day is inadequate academic training and a disproportionate technical training." book has been written by Mr. George This latter defect "must be modified and cor- Borup in "A Tenderfoot With Peary"

On page 178 of the tweifth annual school report are figures to the effect that the inadequate aca-demic and disproportionate technical training referred to by President Davis are rather an advantage to seekers after license No. 1 to teach in public schools, since practically none fall who come from the Training School, while one-third fall who come from Normal College. Yet Dr. Davis and Dr. Kleran declare that the graduates know about the expedition, so far as it of their college "acquit themselves creditably on came within his own experience. There

all occasions."

While the doctors disagree the cighty Normal graduates who falled out of 255 in all who applied last year are wondering at their plight after four years study. The city pays for both the Normal College and Training School. The doctors should The title of Sydney Portal Livatt 1. College and Training School. The doctors should be forced to agree. Page 204, eleventh report, declares there are many ignorant teachers NEW YORE, April 21.

NEW BOOKS.

Matters for the Stage It is our happiness to have before us

four volumes of drama. Mr. Arthur Davison Ficke has two sonnets for a prologue to his play "The Breaking of Bonds; a Drama of the Social Unrest (Sherman, French and Company, Boston) These have a distinct tone of despair. The poet says that his eyes grow dizzy He asks what mid the cities' glooms. but complete destruction here shall save the toiling millions. Only in some Titan grave, he declares, can be the solving I thus particularize because it was at this of these dooms. The steam of hissing engines he calls death's white plumes The looms are terrible looms whose to cessant voices rave in the hearts that should be happy. This state of things made by the poet as to whether there any holy power that can set men free He says that the world is chaos and that slight encouragement at the end of the slowly bring some alleviation. In view of this possibility he asks men to endure. He makes this request twice over, using This man was the nearest to the Confed- an exclamation mark in each case, and so we should think that men were bound

> The characters in the play may be described as embodiments of facts and forces. The dialogue is carried on b the men who labor, by the masters of wealth, by a watcher, by men who are wise, by the spirits of beauty and power, by the spirit of cities, by the hill spirit and by the spirit of the eighth day of creation. By way of illustration we may quote the watcher's description of the spirit of the cities. It is strong and not flattering. It runs:

What form is this that hovers like a mir Out of the city? Past the streets and flare Of chimneys it is rising to this height On bursting clouds of smoke with fiful fire ee! It grows denser-it takes shape and stands It will turn; it will speak. Oh, God, close up m sight!

Let me not see the horrible woman's shape he blind face and the eyes that flercely stare Out of her breasts, and the horror of her hands

The play relates argument and shock and tumult and the general toppling over of things. The men who labor cannot ook up to see the spirit of beauty for fear that the machine will tear them. the masters and the spirit of power appear the watcher calls them a pageant out of The men who labor complain that their eyes are blind from the glare of furnaces and cry: "Show as our oppressors Show us our oppressors!" The wise men recommend "hearkening to the harmonies of Nature's deep and soothing bliss and musing where the planets roam." Tre mendous disaster befalls, but at the last he watcher recites a poem of hopeful prophecy twenty-six stanzas and 130 line long, in the course of which he calls attention to "the luminous heights, where behold! it is morn." This reminded us of Ibsen, as serious a dramatist as ever drev breath. Mr. John Corbin's play of "Husband"

Houghton Mifflin Company) has a preface in which he prepares for the reader a proper state of mind. This drama illustrates and rebukes the tyranny exercised by the American wife over her spouse It is curious to read of the cool badgering The bill proposed by Mr. Underwood here of the hero husband by his heroine wife. He shows a good deal of opposition when she insists upon having a bridge party in his study while he is engaged upon a political document which needs to be finished, we believe, in twenty minutes She objects to his being in his shirt sleeves and he does some remarkable business with his coat. He is not above puns. He with relation to other wearable commodi- bawls out to his wife to shut the door, and when he is rebuked he says that what he really said was Je t adore! Everything comes out all right. The wife does no run away with the English lord. She too 50-60 per cent. can manage a pun. When the English 60 per cent. lord is explaining to her the place of a wife in a Eritish household she says: "Ah, magnificent! Rule, Britannia! Britannia rules the wyves'" The socialist lady in the play does not seem to have very much meaning. She moves across the scene vised forthwith an attack on the duty on shoes rather idly. The play is spirited and interesting. A short piece, "The Forbidden Guests," a tragedy, is published in the same volume

> Mr. John Galsworthy's play of "Justice" (Charles Scribner's Sons) is a tragedy. The hero commits a theft under great temptation. Sympathy goes with him and with the heroine, who also is a sufferer under the law. The play is skilfully and effectively done, as the habit of the author is with plays. It exhibits the suffering of the hero in prison. He and the heroine seem upon the point of coming out well at the last. We wish hat such might have been the case. Alas! the tragical touch is ruthlessly administered.

> Three one act plays by Hermann Sudermann, translated by Archibald Alexander, are included in the volume "Morituri" (Charles Scribner's Sons). "Teja" is a tragical tale of the time of the Goths. In "Fritzchen," a modern play, an estimable young soldier pays for an indiscretion with his life. These two are skilfully made plays. The third play, "The Eternal Masculine," is mystical. It excited our interest, but after a reasonable effort to grasp it we despaired.

Various Phases of Life.

There is much that is interesting in Mr. Daniel Frohman's "Memories of a Manager" (Doubleday, Page and Company) and much that is disappointing. The mere perusal of the names he mentions in his account of the quarter of a century in which he has been prominent in theatrical affairs will stir up the memories of theatregoers. Many well known actor passed through his hands; Mr. Frohman occasionally tells an entertaining anecdote about some of them, but there is so much more that he knows and could tell with propriety which he keeps to himself. His readers expect to hear from him; he their judgment they may deem best and to make recommendation and report thereof to this Legispeople he speaks of. It is only natural that he should dwell on the business side of the theatre; there is much sense in his criticisms of plays from that side. though they may seem strange from the literary point of view.

An extremely interesting and necessary (Frederick A. Stokes Company). It supplies the flesh and blood for the rather meagre skeleton the explorer himself offered. To Peary Arctic experiences were an old story and he thought only were new. He tells what people want to is a superfluity of not wholly intelligible

The Diary of a Soldier of Fortune" (John Lane Company) is misleading. It is not 4 diary and it is in substance merely a rece